

# Iron County Register.

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OUR GOD, OUR COUNTRY AND TRUTH.

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## What the "Investigations" Show.

Though the spirit which conceived and the methods which have characterized the Republican "investigations" into the conduct of the war merited the condemnation they have received even from organs of the G. O. P., these partisan scrutinies of Democratic administration have not been devoid of value. They have completely confuted the Republican charges that there was crookedness, corruption or incompetence among those in high places. Moreover, these inquiries have demonstrated that the Republicans undertook them not so much to discover and punish wrongdoing as to find material for the next presidential campaign. These two things have been made abundantly evident to the people of the country. They have become clear also to the shrewder of Republican leaders, who are now manifesting a desire to drop the proceedings and seek other and better issues.

The Democrats, on their part, have never sought refuge in any denial that great sums of money were spent; but have constantly conceded that such would be found as an inseparable by-product of the stress and pressure under which the country labored to enter the war and finish it quickly and decisively. The Administration had the choice between two courses when this country declared war against Germany in April, 1917. There was the option of moving slowly and cautiously, to prevent loss of money, but with an inevitable sacrifice of more precious time; or of making haste at the risk of waste. Economy of money purchased at the expense of delay would have cost thousands of lives and perhaps victory itself.

If the Administration had elected to economize with dollars while it postponed effective participation in the conflict, if Germany had crushed the Allies while we haggled over expenses, then indeed the Republicans would have been able to bring an indictment against Democratic management of the war.

From Mr. Hilburn.

I am stranded here awaiting a Cotton Belt train, hence this latest affliction: Oh! Do not save your flowers, Your flowers do not save, Go place them in a living hand, Not on a silent grave!

I have just finished a letter to my youngest and newest granddaughter in Denver, Colorado, but as I see by the bulletin board that my train has backed up a couple of hours I shall try to write something you won't print. In these troublous times, when soft-hearted men and women are going to prison for conscience's sake, advanced thinkers of caution are prone to let the other fellow court martyrdom. However, I can't help thinking, and, thank God, there is no espionage law yet made to fit the thinker's case.

I can't help thinking of the khaki socks I have on, the wool for which cost a dollar during the world's late unpleasantness, but now twenty cents. While the noble mothers and sisters and sweethearts of this great country were spending their good money for woolen yarn to knit for the boys "over there," the American Shylocks were exacting the last ounce of flesh, nearest the heart, of American womanhood, while Congress wrote a law to catch the Debeses and the Kate O'Hares. I say I can't help thinking of these things, for, if wool was so scarce one short year ago, how, in the name of God, could it come down 400 per cent. in just twelve months?

Nero is said to have fiddled while Rome burned, but the U. S. Senate is not only fiddling, while the whole world burns for peace, but is playing with fire.

The voter jeers the profiteers And fondly mingles hopes and fears The Stars and Stripes through all the years

May always stand for Liberty! Not Liberty in name, Not Liberty in shame, But Liberty to think and dare, And breathe your thoughts Upon the air.

If this be treason hide away These thoughts Until some future day When men like me Again may hope for Liberty! For Liberty to think, Not in a grave.

Not as the pseudo patriot, Who loves his country best when he Sees less and less of Liberty. For he who loves his country best, Would make her free for all the rest, Although with him they disagree On ways and means for Liberty!

F. P. HILBURN.  
Camden, Ark., Nov. 15th.

**Begley Crash Involves Nearly a Half Million.**  
(Poplar Bluff Republican.)  
The financial crash of George Begley, Jr., which has been the most talked of matter in Butler county during the past two weeks is still a matter of much speculation and gossip.

The exact status of conditions are not yet known. His voluntary bankrupt proceedings have apparently had the effect of suspending criminal action against him on the alleged charge

es of forgeries. W. H. Meredith is attorney for Begley and during the latter part of the week filed for Begley a financial statement with Referee O. A. Knehan at Cape Girardeau. D. H. Doane, who was formerly a teacher in the State University and also on the staff of the Mississippi Valley Trust Company of St. Louis, but during the past year manager of the farming interests of Begley, was appointed receiver of the tangled estate and placed under a bond of \$100,000. He will act as receiver until the 28th of November when a trustee will be elected by the creditors and this officer will then proceed to make adjustment of the claims. Mr. Doane was authorized to thresh and sell the rice crop which he is doing and heretofore that 6500 bushels have been sold at \$3 a bushel. He estimates that the 450 acres of rice will yield in the neighborhood of 20,000 bushels.

That the Begley failure and expose is the most sensational that has occurred in this part of Missouri for many years is indicated by what has slowly filtered through the half-closed channels of information. The failure in which something like a half million dollars of liabilities are involved is not the most sensational. That there are wholesale forgeries running possibly to a quarter of a million dollars is the thing that has startled the community and caused the beads of perspiration to stand out on the foreheads of financial men when they realize that all this frenzied finance was going on around them and they were passed by unheeded. Just how much forgeries of notes and deeds of trust and different paper is not known, and it is possible no one will ever know for the reason that every indication points to the fact that it has been going on for a number of years and many may have been covered up by making new ones.

It appears that his methods of raising money including the forging of his father's name and that of Mrs. Effie Ruth, his mother-in-law, to notes, and the forging of deeds of trust against real estate handled by him or through his agencies. Several of these cases are already known but the extent of such fraudulent paper is not known and can not be known until it is all threshed out in the bankrupt court.

In the list of assets and liabilities filed with the referee there is a jumbled condition that is difficult to understand unless one knew all the facts. For instance the Bank of Poplar Bluff is placed in the list of unsecured creditors for the amount of \$10,000, yet M. C. Horton, president of the institution, makes the statement that his bank is secured. That he has a lien on the rice crop, and personal security signed by George Begley, Sr., and Mrs. Effie M. Ruth, which makes it gilt edged.

The list of unsecured creditors includes more than \$150,000 and this no doubt means that much of this is bogus paper which has been forged.

It appears now that these forgeries have been going on for at least two or three years and perhaps longer. One case is known here in the city in which two different men hold forged first trust deeds against the same property. This was more than two years ago and when the fraud was discovered he begged off from his friends with the solemn promise that he would not commit such a crime again.

The Begley bubble burst when the Mississippi Valley Trust Company of St. Louis was tipped off by local people that the \$70,000 Begley paper held by them was fraudulent. They immediately sent representatives here and the father of Mr. Begley and his mother-in-law furnished security to satisfy the Trust Company. Other

forgeries began to show up and it was realized then that his house of cards had tumbled down about his head. Mr. Begley has retired to his home and has not been on the street since the crash came.

## JUST GOT OVER A COLD.

Look out for kidney troubles and backache. Colds overtax the kidneys and often leave them weak. For weak kidneys—well, read what a grateful user says:

Mrs. L. E. Jenkins, Fredericktown, Mo., says: "On several occasions Doan's Kidney Pills have proven successful when I have needed them. Whenever I have taken cold, it has settled in my back and has caused awful pains. My back has become weak and I have had a great deal of misery until I would use Doan's Kidney Pills. Doan's always proved beneficial and gave me relief. I generally keep Doan's on hand now."

Price, 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Jenkins had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

Is this really a government of the people, for the people and by the people, or is it simply a government of Gompers and Company and for Gompers and Company? We are brought face to face with an industrial crisis upon the settlement of which depends the future peace and happiness of all American people. As the issue must be fought out sooner or later, it is perhaps as well that we do it now, and ascertain just where we all stand. —Boonville Advertiser.

# DELCO-LIGHT

## "Electricity for every Farm"

The Delco-Light engine is the valve-in-the-head type—used in the best and most powerful airplane engines and in hundreds of thousands of automobiles.

It is air-cooled—runs on kerosene in any climate—has only one place to oil and has a simple mixing valve in place of carburetor.

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Delco-Light long ago passed the experimental stage and has gone through the refining influence of three and one-half years of production and of usage by 75,000 customers.

You will find plants in the homes of your community. Just ask your neighbor about his Delco-Light plant.

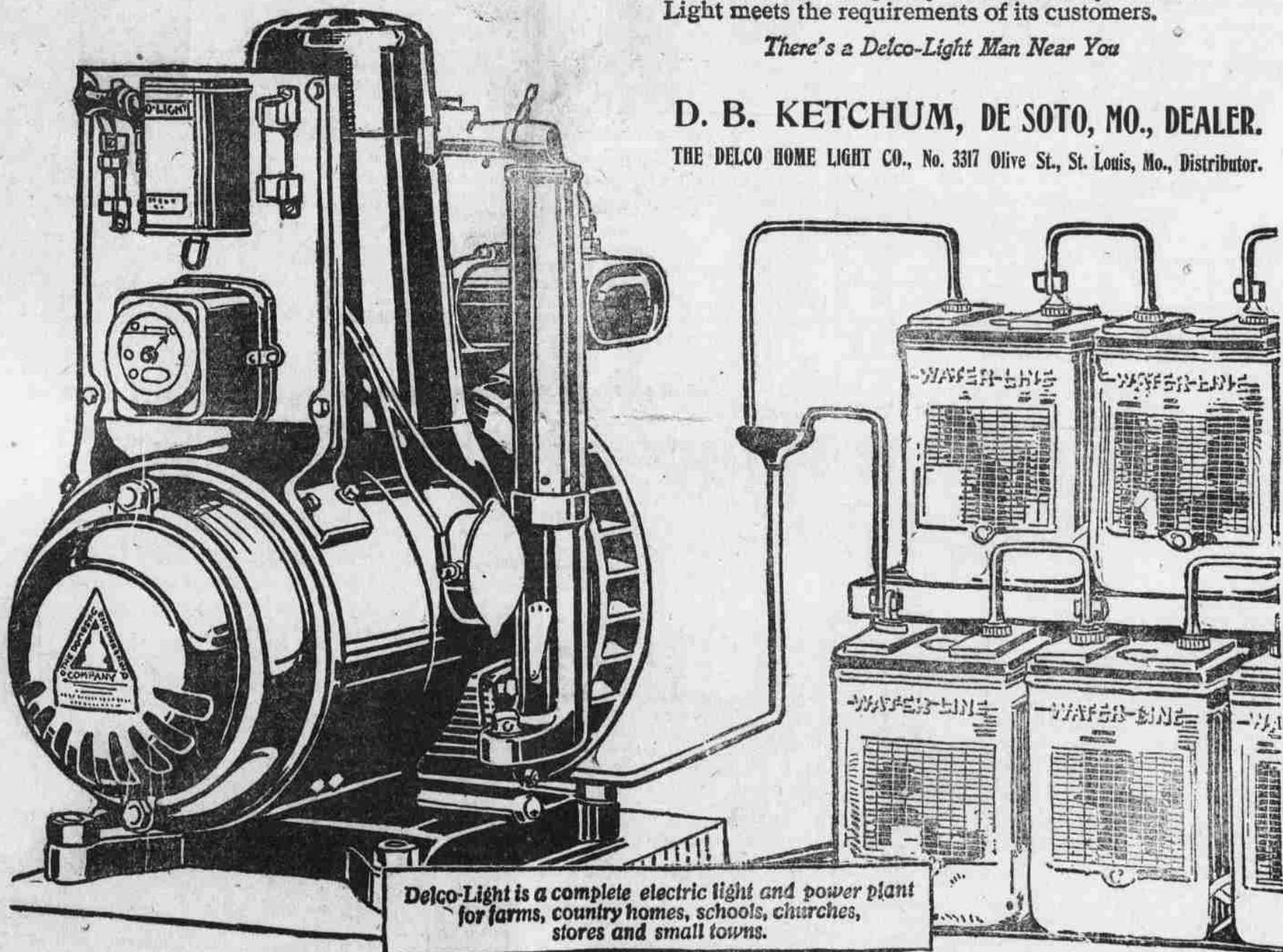
Delco-Light makes happy homes; it saves time and labor, taking away lots of hard, unpleasant tasks. It "Pays for Itself" by the work it does and the time it saves.

Of the more than 75,000 Satisfied Users of Delco-Light, the first are among the most enthusiastic—proof that the simplicity and durability of Delco-Light meets the requirements of its customers.

There's a Delco-Light Man Near You

D. B. KETCHUM, DE SOTO, MO., DEALER.

THE DELCO HOME LIGHT CO., No. 3317 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo., Distributor.



THE DOMESTIC ENGINEERING COMPANY, Makers of Delco-Light Products, DAYTON, OHIO

I was there to make a sketch of Mrs. L. E. Jenkins, Fredericktown, Mo., says: "On several occasions Doan's Kidney Pills have proven successful when I have needed them. Whenever I have taken cold, it has settled in my back and has caused awful pains. My back has become weak and I have had a great deal of misery until I would use Doan's Kidney Pills. Doan's always proved beneficial and gave me relief. I generally keep Doan's on hand now."

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Bringing to the door of your dining room—as close as your own kitchen—the matchless facilities of the best and most wholesome bakeries in the world. Uneeda Biscuit come to you as fresh and immaculate as when they were taken from the oven.

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